

Minutes: Leesburg Tree Commission September 15, 2003

The Leesburg Tree Commission met on Monday, September 15, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the lower level meeting room at 25 West Market Street, Leesburg, VA. Staff present for the meeting was Jay Banks.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Chairman Wolf
Commissioner Peterson
Commissioner Goolsby
Commissioner Pritchard
Commissioner Hower
Commissioner Perry
Councilman Schmidt

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Pritchard made a motion to approve the minute of August 18, 2003 as amended.

Motion: Pritchard
Second: Goolsby
Carried: 6-0

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dr. Lillis a member of the Towns Park Commission talked to the Commission regarding the Tuscarora Creek Park trail.

Commissioner Pritchard stated that the Tree Commission would help to support this.

Nathaniel Ogedegbe, Senior Engineer spoke to the Commission about the National Pollutant Discharge Emission System (NPDES) permit.

Mr. Banks stated that one of the items Mr. Ogedegbe is looking at is how much tree coverage has been lost and how that effects storm water run off.

Mr. Ogedegbe asked if the Tree Commission had a program for planting trees.

Commissioner Pritchard stated that they handed out a program to the elementary school students telling them how important it is to plant trees.

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Commissioner Perry stated that brochures should be sent to the Home Owners Associations in Town so they can hand them out to their residents.

Commissioner Pritchard stated that the Commission hands out seedlings at the Flower and Garden show and said Mr. Ogedegbe could come and talk about Storm Water management at the Commission's Flower and Garden booth.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Banks stated that Commissioner Schmidt did bring up the "No Net Loss of Trees" at the Town Council meeting and maybe it is time for the Tree Commission to present the idea as well as answer questions from Council. It may be time to bring the "No Net Loss of Trees" policy forward during the Town Plan revision.

The Tree Commission discussed sending someone to the Town Council Meeting to make a presentation.

Commissioner Perry stated that she would like some input on the Plant a Tree Brochures.

The Tree Commission talked about offering an incentive program for planting a tree in Leesburg.

Mr. Banks stated that there was an update in the packet for the Tree inventory.

The Tree Commission discussed doing the Tree inventory in sections.

Commissioner Peterson moved to have the trees inventoried in the SE section of Leesburg and including Freedom Park.

Moved: Peterson
Second: Pritchard
Carried: 6-0

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Banks discussed an offer made to the Town by a large tree grower; Moon's Tree Farm has offered the Town trees at 50% of their cost.

Mr. Banks stated that Loudoun County Extension Services is planting a Tree Arboretum.

Mr. Banks stated that the Right-of-Way permit is in its final revision and will be forwarded to the Traffic Engineer.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Mr. Banks stated that he had display sheets for the seedling give away. They are Hazel Nut and River Birch trees for the Flower and Garden Show.

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Mr. Banks stated that Target and Costco are being constructed and there are some trees in the way of the parking lot and the builder asked Mr. Banks if he would like to have the trees. Mr. Banks stated he would take the trees, but had no money to plant them. He called corporate Target and they have agreed to move the trees and plant them at no cost to the Town.

Commissioner Goolsby asked about doing a letter to Target to thank them for moving the trees.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

Commissioner Goolsby stated he would be happy to write the letter to Target.

Commissioner Perry stated that the table banner for the Tree Commission would cost between \$220 and \$350.

Commissioner Hower stated he attended the visioning session on environment for the Town Plan and stated he would give Mr. Banks a copy of the handouts from the presentation for the next Tree Commission packet. Commissioner Hower also stated that all but one of the trees in the Riparian site at Ida Lee are alive.

Commissioner Pritchard thanked Mr. Banks for including the Custom Cruisers article from the Loudoun Times Mirror in their packet.

COUNCILMANIC COMMENTS:

Councilman Schmidt stated he would support the Tree Commissions efforts for Council presentation.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Goolsby made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Goolsby
Second: Perry
Carried: 6-0

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Jay S. Banks, Urban Forester